dankulam could not be implemented so far.

(b) A fresh assessment on the technical and commercial aspects is required to be carried out to arrive at the estimated outlay for the project.

(c) An amount of about Rs. 5.3 crores (Upto June 1992) has so far been spent on the project.

(d) and (e) The schedule for completion is uncertain due to the reasons given in (a) and (b).

Indo-Russian agreement in nuclear field

3577. SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chairman of the Indian Atomic Energy Commission had visited Russia in March-April this year;

(b) if so, whether he has brought to the notice of Government that the Russian Government has issued a notification saying "hereafter nuclear cooperation and supply of nuclear equipment would be subject to the country's accepting of full scale safeguards";

(c) whether negotiations held regarding Koodankulam project were conclusive; and

(d) what is the present position regarding the Indo-Russian Agreement of 1000 MWe VVERs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Yes, Sir. Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) had visited Russia in April, 1992.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) During the preliminary discussions initiated on the subject in Moscow, it was suggested that expert level delegations could initiate discussions to sort out various issues. Though it was agreed to receive a Russian delegation in this connection in September 1992, this visit did not materialise from the Russian side. While satisfactory progress was being made to implement the Inter Governmental Agreement (IGA), the developments in the erstwhile Soviet Union over the last two years have introduced a large element of uncertainty. Renewed responsibilities and conditions for financial aid need to be re-affirmed and assessed afresh in view of the changed circumstances.

Action against the drug companies for short supply and spurious drugs

@3578. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to unfavourable drug licensing policy, essential medicines are in short supply and spurious drugs are playing havoc with the lives of innocent people in the country; and

(b) if so, the action taken so far against the Drug Companies both Indian/foreign indulging in unfair means?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) No instance of shortage or spurious drugs, due to licensing constraints, has come to the notice of the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

@Previously Unstarred Question 2441, transferred from 9th December, 1992.